

**RULES
OF
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
FAMILY ASSISTANCE DIVISION**

**CHAPTER 1240-1-56
PILOT DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS**

FAMILIES FIRST PROGRAM

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1240-1-56-.01 PILOT DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS. Tennessee will operate three pilot projects as part of the Families First demonstration project. Participants in each pilot will be subject to the Families First requirements as well as those required by the pilot.

***Authority:** TCA §§4-5-201 et seq. and 71-1-105; Public Chapter 950 (1996); Public Chapter 886 (1996); Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 2, 1996; effective February 15, 1997.*

1240-1-56-.02 INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT (IDA) PILOT PROJECT.

- (1) The IDA pilot project will be carried out in six (6) urban and six (6) rural counties in each region of the state.
- (2) Families First recipients may, for each time-limited period of eligibility, deposit up to \$5,000 in special savings accounts for career development goals for:
 - (a) post-secondary education for themselves or their children;
 - (b) small business development;
 - (c) home ownership; or
 - (d) transportation needs.
- (3) The value of the IDA will not be counted when establishing the resources of the AG in relation to the Families First resource limit for the time-limited period of eligibility for the AG.
- (4) When Families First is terminated for an AG, the participant is eligible to receive the savings from their Individual Development Account.
- (5) When an AG again becomes eligible for Families First, a new IDA may be established.
- (6)
 - (a) IDAs will be maintained as interest-bearing accounts by a bonded non-profit entity approved by the state, monitored by the Department of Human Services, and will be subject to audit.
 - (b) The Treasurer of the State of Tennessee shall prescribe investment procedures for the corpus of the IDA funds in a manner which he determines in consultation with the Commissioners of Human Services and Finance and Administration.

(Rule 1240-1-56-.02, continued)

- (c) Interest in the IDA's shall remain in those accounts and shall be distributed to the account holders on an equitable basis in the manner determined by the Treasurer in consultation with the commissioners.
- (7) Matching funds from public and private funds may be deposited to a participant's IDA for both initial and subsequent periods of eligibility under the following circumstances:
 - (a) For participants who secure employment while participating in the project, matching contributions may begin immediately;
 - (b) The Families First recipient must be a member of a group which meets twice a month to make contributions to their IDAs and receive support, training, and technical assistance to ensure they secure and maintain employment while building their IDA accounts; and
 - (c) The Families First participant must notify the Department of Human Services in advance of establishing an IDA.

Authority: TCA §§4-5-201 et seq. and 71-1-105; Public Chapter 950 (1996); Public Chapter 886 (1996); Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 2, 1996; effective February 15, 1997.

1240-1-56-.03 RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

- (1) Tennessee will operate a Responsible Fatherhood Demonstration Project (RFDP) in Davidson County.
 - (a) The RFDP will be operated by the Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization, under contract with the state.
 - (b) Families First funds will be matched with federal Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement dollars to finance the project.
- (2) The RFDP will test strategies aimed at bringing fathers back to their children and families. Such strategies will include:
 - (a) intensive comprehensive home-based one-on-one counseling;
 - (b) group support sessions;
 - (c) training; and
 - (d) employment assistance.
- (3) Tennessee will test whether, as a result of providing these services, fathers participating in this project are more likely to :
 - (a) establish paternity;
 - (b) strengthen their fathering skills;
 - (c) develop strong work ethics and job skills resulting in employment; and
 - (d) provide child support to their children.

(Rule 1240-1-56-.03, continued)

Authority: TCA §§4-5-201 et seq. and 71-1-105; Public Chapter 950 (1996); Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 2, 1996; effective February 15, 1997.

1240-1-56-.04 RENEWAL HOUSE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.

- (1) The Renewal House Demonstration Project (RHDP) will test whether welfare families, at risk of being broken apart due to the addiction of the mother to crack cocaine, can be preserved through a residential program where the mother and her children live together and receive treatment for addiction, support, housing, education, job training, and employment, for a six (6) to twelve (12) month period.
- (2) Specific services to be provided will include:
 - (a) assessment;
 - (b) evaluation and diagnostic services;
 - (c) inpatient medical detoxification;
 - (d) intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment;
 - (e) outpatient counseling, recovery programs, and aftercare services;
 - (f) Families First employment, education, training, and case management services, including:
 1. child care;
 2. transportation;
 3. other support services which may be needed.
 - (g) life skills classes;
 - (h) parenting training; and
 - (I) classes in infectious diseases and general health.

Authority: TCA §§4-5-201 et seq. and 71-1-105; Public Chapter 950 (1996); Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 2, 1996; effective February 15, 1997.